

1. (currently amended) A machine for printing unprinted sheets, in particular securities sheets, while not printing intermediate sheets, the machine having a first at least one feed (31) for feeding unprinted sheets (32), a second feed for feeding intermediate sheets, a plate cylinder ~~(35)~~ with at least one printing plate, an impression cylinder ~~(36)~~, a wiping device ~~(49)~~ and an inking system ~~(37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45)~~ for inking the necessary zones of the plate or plates carried by the plate cylinder ~~(35)~~, and a delivery system for receiving the sheets from the impression cylinder after a complete revolution thereof, wherein the impression cylinder alternately receives an unprinted sheet and an intermediate sheet from the first and second feeds, wherein for an impression cylinder (36) which can carry N sheets on its periphery, N being is a multiple of 2, the plate cylinder carries (35) comprises N/2 plates, so that only the unprinted half of the sheets (32) carried by the impression cylinder (36) are printed by each of the plates during one complete revolution of the cylinders (35, 36) while the intermediate sheets are not printed by each of the plates, and wherein the delivery system receives the sheets from the impression cylinder in such a way that a stack of sheets composed alternatively of printed sheets and intermediate sheets separating the printed sheets is formed.

2. (Currently amended) The printing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the N/2 plates are distributed symmetrically on the plate cylinder (35).

~~3. (Cancelled) The printing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein it additionally contains a feed device (46) for intermediate sheets, with which an intermediate sheet (47) is introduced between each sheet (32) to be printed, and wherein the sheet which is not printed by a plate is an intermediate sheet (47).~~

1 4. (Cancelled) ~~The printing machine as claimed in claim 3, wherein the~~  
2 ~~intermediate sheets are fed on the impression cylinder (36).~~

1 5. The printing machine as claimed in one of claims 1, wherein N is equal to  
2 2.

1 6. (Cancelled) ~~The printing machine as claimed in one of claims 1, wherein it~~  
2 ~~comprises a delivery stack (34), on which the sheets from the impression cylinder are~~  
3 ~~deposited after a complete revolution of the latter.~~

1 7. (currently amended) The printing machine as claimed in claim 1 6, wherein the  
2 inking system is an indirect inking system, comprising an ink collecting cylinder ~~(45)~~,  
3 which interacts firstly with at least one ink applicator cylinder ~~(42, 43, 44)~~ and secondly  
4 with the plate cylinder ~~(35)~~ in order to ink the necessary zones of the plate or plates  
5 carried by the plate cylinder ~~(35)~~.